

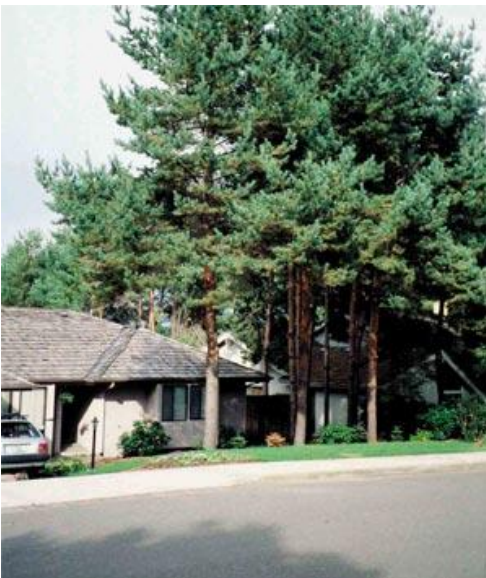
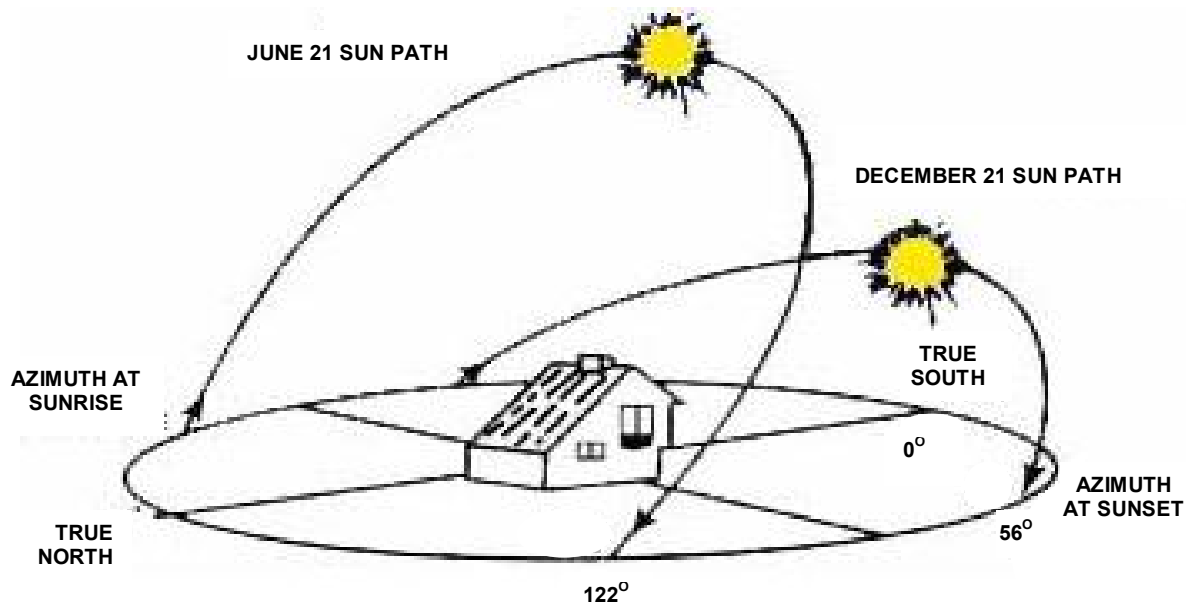


CITY OF COSTA MESA

Solar Collectors and Access



When installing any type of solar collector (for instance, solar panels), you should take into account solar access to the collector(s). Especially critical is the winter when shorter days, the sun's lower position in the sky, and increased cloud cover, affect the amount of sun that can reach the collectors. Even a tree limb can make the difference! Make sure the spot you choose is clear of shade from at least 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on December 21st.



The placement of trees and the possibility of second story construction on adjoining properties should be taken into account as well.

Currently, the State's "Solar Shade Control Act" prohibits the planting of trees and/or shrubs that would immediately or grow over time to cast a shadow on greater than 10% of an existing collector's absorption area between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., standard time. However, this legislation does not apply to structures.